

Delta Master Recreation Planning Activities for 2002

January 2002

This work plan is based on the Delta Recreation Master Plan Request for Proposals (RFP) (November 2001), prepared by the Dangermond Group for the Delta Protection Commission. The RFP identifies certain tasks to be undertaken by a chosen consultant in this master planning effort. Due to the unavailability of funding for hiring a consultant, DPC and CALFED staff will be undertaking some of the initial work on this effort, especially as it relates to planning and implementation of specific CALFED programs.

Note: Regular updates to the DPC's Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee, and incorporation of the Committee's input, are implied for all tasks.

Task 1: Preparation of Updated GIS Recreation Map for the Delta

DWR staff has offered to provide a base map for this task. Subsequent work on this task will include soliciting updated recreation information from local jurisdictions and other entities, and updating existing recreation GIS layers available from DPC (or another source). This map will enable CALFED staff and consultants to evaluate the compatibility of CALFED projects with nearby recreational activities and programs, avoid and/or mitigate impacts to those activities, and construct or implement complementary recreational improvements or programs as part of each project.

Subtasks and Responsible Parties (assuming DWR base map with DPC data overlays):

Obtain corrected boundary of Legal Delta (base map) from DWR GIS staff	CALFED Staff DPC Staff
Consult with DWR and DOC (CA Dept. of Conservation) GIS staff on compatibility of DWR base map and the following DPC GIS overlays: (a) recreation (marinas, parks, trails, launch ramps, fishing piers, camping areas, picnic areas, windsurf areas, hunting areas); (b) publicly-owned lands; and (c) city boundaries.	CALFED Staff DPC Staff
Contact all CALFED agencies, local jurisdictions and other entities for updates on recreation information and/or programs, and update DPC GIS recreation data layers accordingly.	DPC Staff DOC GIS Staff
Obtain GIS information on General Plans and Zoning in the Delta, for inclusion in the map. (If this information does not currently exist in GIS format, it may need to be developed.)	DPC Staff DOC GIS Staff

Task 2: Review of Delta Boating Needs Assessment Prepared for Department of Boating and Waterways, and Any Other New Recreation Reports/Products Since 1997 Recreation Survey

The Dangermond Group is conducting a Delta Boating Needs Assessment (BNA) for the Department of Boating and Waterways; it will be completed in early 2002. The BNA addresses both land- and water-based recreation activities in the Delta. It is anticipated

that most recreation planning activities for the Delta in the near future will build directly upon the information in this document. Use of the BNA will significantly avoid duplication of effort in data collection and surveys. The BNA will include the following information, and will be expanded as new information from related DBW studies comes available:

- ◆ Update of Delta Recreation Facilities
- ◆ Boating Demand Analysis
- ◆ Identified Needs and Assessment of Constraints/Opportunities
- ◆ Recommended Improvements and Schematic Designs

Subtasks and Responsible Parties:

Review of BNA	DPC Staff CALFED Staff
Contact all CALFED agencies, local jurisdictions and other entities for updates on new and proposed projects and plans for recreation in the legal Delta (this directly relates to updating of the GIS layers in Task 1)	DPC Staff

Task 3: Prioritization of Preliminary Needs as Identified by DBW's Boating Needs Assessment, CALFED, and Others

According to past recreation studies conducted in the Delta, and based on information gathered during the formulation of the BNA, there are some prevalent identified needs and issues associated with recreation in the Delta. For example, over 54% of boaters and nearly 50% of anglers surveyed for DPC's Delta Recreation Survey (1997) identified a need for more public restrooms. Sewage pump-out facilities, courtesy docks, shoreline access, fishing piers and other fishing access, biking/hiking trails, and hunting areas were also deemed inadequate or in shortage.

Also, there is a growing concern over public health issues associated with water contact recreation, due to the presence of bacteria and pathogens in some areas of the Delta. As part of recreational use and demand surveys conducted by the Dangermond Group in 2000, survey respondents reported concern over various aspects of Delta water quality (turbidity, odor, pollution in general). This widespread concern is largely the catalyst for proposed legislation to prohibit water contact recreation (such as fishing, windsurfing, jetskiing, or swimming/wading) in areas that cannot meet specified water quality objectives. This will directly influence recommendations on what types of recreation facilities may be implemented in specific areas of the Delta.

CALFED is moving forward with planning and implementation of its overall program, and is interested in constructing and implementing recreational improvements associated with specific projects. Studies relating to CALFED's North and South Delta Improvements projects are underway, and a study of possible CALFED "adoption" of the approved Delta Wetlands Project will be completed in early 2002. In the near term, recreation planning associated with these three projects is a priority.

Subtasks and Responsible Parties:

Prioritization of needs identified in BNA, both generally and as they relate to all CALFED Program components of direct relevance to the Delta (Water Quality, Levees, ERP, Storage, Conveyance)	CALFED Staff DPC Staff DPC Consultant
Prioritization of needs identified in BNA relating to North Delta Improvements, South Delta Improvements, and the Delta Wetlands Project specifically	CALFED Staff DPC Staff
Follow-up on water contact recreation issues, including communication with public health departments and tracking of relevant legislation	CALFED Staff

Task 4: Initial Physical Opportunities and Constraints Analysis for: (a) North and (b) South Delta Improvements Projects, (c) the Delta Wetlands Project, and (d) Other Delta Areas

Based on identified recreation needs and issues, and on project information relating to CALFED's proposed North and South Delta Improvement projects and the Delta Wetlands Project, DPC and CALFED staff will identify potential recreation improvements that are compatible with each project, with feedback from the RCAC. Once potential improvements are identified, and rough conceptual designs of improvements drafted, CALFED staff and consultants can preliminarily analyze opportunities and constraints associated with each improvement individually, as well as all improvements cumulatively, as part of CALFED environmental documents.

Subtasks and Responsible Parties:

Initial identification of potential recreational improvements and programs that are compatible with and/or complementary to: the (a) North and (b) South Delta Improvement projects and (c) the Delta Wetlands Project	DPC Staff CALFED Staff
Opportunities/Constraints analysis of potential recreational improvements incorporated into: the (a) North and (b) South Delta Improvement projects, (c) the Delta Wetlands Project, including funding considerations, and (d) other Delta projects (Yolo Bypass, Stone Lakes NWR, Cosumnes Preserve, etc.)	CALFED Staff and Consultants
Preliminary conceptual design of potential recreational improvements for the (a) North and (b) South Delta Improvement projects, (c) Delta Wetlands Project, and (d) other Delta projects (Yolo Bypass, Stone Lakes NWR, Cosumnes Preserve, etc.)	DPC Consultant CALFED Staff and Consultants
Initial identification of potential recreation improvements and programs for other areas of the Delta (based on BNA and other studies), opportunities/constraints analysis of potential improvements, and preliminary conceptual design of potential improvements	DPC Staff CALFED Staff DPC Consultant

Task 5: Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement (General, DPC and CALFED Staff)

The Dangermond Group conducted significant public outreach as part of its Delta Boating Needs Assessment. Several geographical and specialized recreational group workshops were held in 2000, and DPC's Recreation Citizens Advisory Committee (RCAC) has been receiving updates and providing input on the BNA regularly. Additional workshops are not anticipated at this time; however, expanded membership on the RCAC will be pursued to reflect a broader variety of interests. The RCAC will continue to be the primary vehicle for communication between Delta recreation interests and CALFED staff and consultants.

Additional public outreach and stakeholder engagement is anticipated to occur on a broader scale as informational workshops and scoping sessions are held on the various CALFED projects, and as part of public review of environmental documents associated with those projects.

Subtasks and Responsible Parties:

Preparation of a revised, expanded mailing/review list, including CALFED agencies, local jurisdictions (recreation, planning, and public health departments), and other interested parties (including agricultural interests)	DPC Staff
FOR EACH IDENTIFIED WORK PRODUCT (See Below):	
Solicit review and written comments from CALFED agencies, local jurisdictions, and other interested parties	CALFED Staff
Provide a briefing to, and solicit review and written comments from, DPC's RCAC	CALFED Staff
Provide a briefing to, and solicit review and written comments from, the DPC	CALFED Staff

Anticipated Work Products (All Tasks):

Updated GIS Delta Recreation Map

Priority Lists of Identified Needs:

- ◆ General (as identified in BNA)
- ◆ BNA priorities relating directly to CALFED Components (Levees, WQ, ERP, Storage, Conveyance)
- ◆ BNA priorities relating to:
 1. North Delta Improvements
 2. South Delta Improvements
 3. Delta Wetlands Project
 4. Other Delta projects

Physical Opportunities and Constraints Analyses:

- ◆ North Delta Improvements
- ◆ South Delta Improvements
- ◆ Delta Wetlands Project
- ◆ Other Delta projects